



Nation

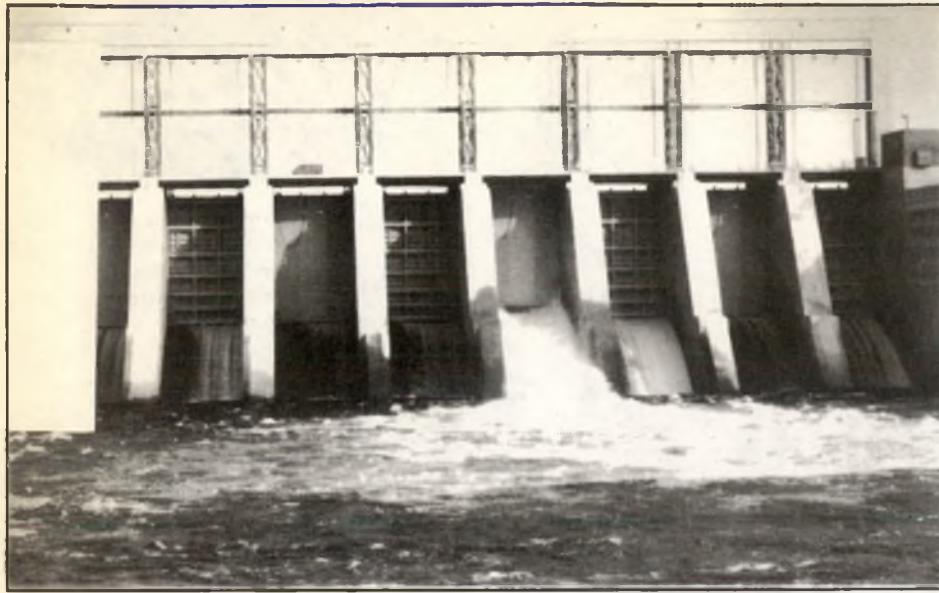
don't fight the power: be the power • Why aren't there more businesses in the communities? • Income in Cree region is \$95.5 million a year • 95 per cent of this money goes out of the communities (that's a lot of millions): Bring it back in • You don't have to have an education, you have to have an attitude • Life skills make a business: What can I do? What do I like? • 1 per cent is the good idea. 99 per cent is the hard work • Start slow and simple: you don't need millions • don't fight the power: be the power, use the force, Luke • Get up and do it, no one else will, up and at'er, couch potatoe • In 1994, the total Cree workforce was 3,886 • In 1994, 2,787 sexy Crees were employed • 1,419 on income security • 463 working for the bands • 464 working for the Cree entities • 409 for a local enterprises • 1,099 Cree were unemployed • There are more businesses in the temporary town of Radisson than in Chisasibi • Projected workforce for 2004 is 7,526 people. Who will provide work for them? The government? (Ha ha ha) The Bands? (Hee hee hee) CRA? (Ho ho ho) Hydro Quebec? (Hope Not!) • 75 per cent of our population is under the age of thirty • The major problem is politics: red tape, no response, no space • You have to experience business. Nobody can teach you. You have to live it • Don't let

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NO REST FOR THE WICKED

Hydro-Quebec must think I'm the most outspoken, never-say-die opposition they have. I feel the majority of my editorials in some way deals with them and the impacts that they have on the Crees in some way. "Give it a rest," I can almost hear them saying.

Unfortunately this is the real world and to coin an overused cliché, "there's no rest for the wicked." Just as they haven't rested, neither shall I.

The latest in a long list of misconceptions and backroom politics deals with Hydro-Quebec and Great Whale. Even though the spokespersons at Hydro have stated that they will not do any projects that a community nixes, the reality is being twisted, deliberately or not.

Some very basic mis-impressions have arisen. In conversations with Hydro-Quebec officials and according to our reports, we've found out what Hydro-Quebec seems to think. They think the Crees are negotiating with them through the three-man task force that was set up after Premier Bouchard came up North on his visit. The task force members are: Chief Walter Hughboy, Romeo Saganash and Roderick Pachano.

Hydro is spin-doctoring Whapmagoostui's latest referendum and the subsequent GCCEA/CRA Annual General Assembly Resolution concerning the Great Whale Project. They say the referendum and resolution don't apply to their latest proposal to divert the Great Whale and Rupert rivers because this project is different from the original one which the Crees defeated.

Matthew Mukash, Chief of Great Whale,

says he can't understand this attitude. "The mandate encompassed all development to the Great Whale River. It was very straightforward and clear in the mandate that the resolution represented. That mandate has to be carried out by the GCCEA. Not to do so would be contrary to the understanding by the Cree communities to respect decisions of the other communities," he said.

"This referendum and the resulting resolution were unanimous. No community voted against it. In my mind, there are no questions about it. There should be no negotiations on it. There should be nothing but the actions necessary to stop Hydro-Quebec's plans to develop the Great Whale River, whether or not the proposals change," asserted Mukash.

Given all this and Whapmagoostui's latest battle plan for a new upcoming U.S. tour (see page 7), one can only wonder exactly what it is that keeps Hydro-Quebec coming back, again and again. Even the most jaded of the public-relations department can't hope to think that the Whapmagoostui First Nation is going to allow Hydro to divert their river or disappear quietly without a fight.

Well, the latest action in this tale is that Chief Matthew Mukash will be calling Hydro-Quebec to discuss the proposed Great Whale River Diversion Project and to let them know the Whapmagoostui community does not want this project. Given that Hydro said they'll back down if a community doesn't want a project we'll keep you up to date on the developments. In this way we'll see if the forked tongue is a thing of the past when Hydro talks.

by William Nicholls

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BY HARRY BOSUM

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design: Katerina Cizek

NOV. 07, 1997

To the Editor:
Re: Rez Notes this issues.

NEMASKA - This is to inform you that there will not be a Rez Notes this issue. The reason, or rather the reasons, being that... well... frankly, I just can't be bothered with it right now. I have too many things on my mind. Some too painful and deeply personal to mention here. You probably know what I'm talking about. Besides, you don't pay me enough. Two thousands bucks a week! What do you take me for?

The other reason for my not being able to write the (bleep) is the criticism the column received days ago by a few readers who probably and understandably want to remain anonymous. I believe their exact words were, "Where's the rez in Rez Notes? It's more like his diary now?" They're right. Sort of. You see, what our critics don't realize is that the rez is not just a place. It can be and is a state of mind. By this I mean you don't have to be on the rez to be on the rez. I hope I'm making myself clear. I know it sounds like I'm stoned, but trust me, I'm not. Besides, you know I never touch the stuff. Come to think of it, being stoned would be reason enough not to write the column. I'm sure you agree with me, as always, on that point.

Back to the critics I was talking about. Apparently, they also don't like the fact that I sometimes use the F, the S and the P words. I'm sorry but you know how I am with deadlines. Yes, some people consider them vulgar but we live in vulgar times, my dear friend! I guess you could say when the going gets vulgar, the vulgar get going. Ha! Seriously... this is very Pentecostal of them and you know how I feel about that kind of stuff. Whatever.

Before I forget, they do like the stuff on the great chef Jean Cuisine. So that's a gold star for us.

Another complaint that was passed on to me was the lack of juicy gossip in the Notes. It seems some of our readers miss hearing about their people making fools of themselves, of others or what have you. I don't care. I suppose we could make them happy and tell them about the former chief who bought an overpriced hunting dog from down south last spring only to find out at his blind that his mighty hunting dog was terrified of guns. But if we did that we'd be making fun of a former chief who's probably a very nice guy but is a lousy judge of retrievers.

Or we could mention Dakota House (no relation to the Chisasibi Houses, I'm sure),



TeeVee on the Native soap opera North of 60, being beaten up at five in the morning in his Edmonton home, almost losing an ear in the process. For your information, dear editor, Dakota is recovering nicely and his assailant has been arrested, charged and was, if there is any justice, probably beaten himself. But who cares about that. I've been beaten up at five in the morning and I don't have my publicist sending out press releases about the ugly details.

These readers want to hear the tale of the very Kennedy-esque chief who was doing the dirty (or whatever the fashionable phrase is this week) on one of the conference room tables with an employee only to have her brag to everybody that she was doing the chief. Oh no, we could never tell them that. The two fornicators (for that is what they are) and everybody else would freak. Trust me on this. We don't want everybody freakout out at the same time. I've seen it happen before, as have you I'm sure, and it's not a pretty sight.

There are other inane stories we could publish. There's that one I mentioned to you a few weeks ago. The one about the old chief who checked in to his suite at the Sheraton during the James Bay Project court case. He found a closet full of beer waiting for him. Reportedly, many of the other Cree guests at the Lodging found the same thing in their rooms. My sources theorize it was compliments of Hydro-Quebec. Others say it was someone from our side. I don't know.

The good old days, eh? No wonder we got such a lousy deal. What was that line in the JBNQA? The Crees agree to surrender all... I don't know if I want to laugh or cry.

Anyway, friend, that's all I needed to say. Sorry about the column this week. The fans (where do I get the ego?) will understand.

Pass on the message to everyone at headquarters that I miss them all terribly already and I love them. See you in a few days. God willing.

by Neil Diamond



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James A Shecapio.

A TRIBUTE TO MY BEST FRIEND, JAMES A. SHECAPIO

By Andrew Neeposh

In Loving memory of a personal Friend and Colleague

At this time, I can only thank the Lord, our maker, to have blessed me with a friend, a friend to grow to admire, respect and most of all to Love. It is very difficult for me, at this time, to accept the fact that your earthly station is complete but it gives me peace to know that you are passing on to a better world, a world of eternal peace and Love. Through faith, I have come to believe that our stations on earth are brief and are predetermined by a master architect. You have been recalled back home to be forever with the Lord, our God. You and Amanda are now at home in the everlasting arms of Love with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

You might have left this world, but I know you will always be with us in heart and spirit. James, I am very grateful to have known you, and the friendship we shared, I will forever cherish. Your passing on from this world was so sudden and very hard to believe. One day we're talking, joking around as usual and having fun. Next day you're gone. It hurts me to see you go, my friend. James, you and Amanda will always be in our hearts.

My friend, James, you have touched my

life in so many ways which I am very thankful for. You were more than a friend to me, James. You were like a brother. You were always there for me when I needed someone. You were a friend I could count on to pull me through, through life's trials. You lifted me up when I was down and out, chained in the bondage of alcoholism. You instilled the pride in me to get up, stand on my feet and walk a sober life. Thank You for all the good times and the years that we had shared together, as childhood friends, colleagues and friends forever.

As a colleague, you have inspired me, through your Love to help others and serve your people to the utmost of your God-given abilities and talents. You were a man of great vision and

leadership. You have left us with a legacy to think not what the community can do for us but rather what we, as individuals, can do for the community. Although, most of the time, your work was done through voluntary service, you persevered and never ceased to quit. As a colleague, I know that you did not work for recognition or prestige, but rather, through your big heart, were serving one master. I believe that the reward that you have fought for on this earth has been awarded and your efforts crowned.

You are an inspiration to us all and your spirit will live on with us as we strive to serve one master. I wish you a last farewell my friend. You and Amanda are now at home in heaven in God's Kingdom. Some day we will meet again, my friend... Forever your friend, Andrew Neeposh...

A lesson to be learned from passing away of a personal friend so close is that sometimes we take life for granted and this really hits hard when the news comes.

Written the day following the funeral service for James and Amanda.

TO LATE JAMES A. SHECAPIO AND DAUGHTER AMANDA

That day, you daughter and you were united in your quietus

That day, a moment of silence and pause was rooted in all of us.

Although I never knew you well
Although we rarely spoke to each other,

there existed a respect and admiration for a gentleman such as you

Our acquaintance was distant
Our friendship was unknown to many
Nonetheless, our vision was common,
our thoughts were

Related and our feelings were comparable

What you longed for
What you believed in
What you worked for
And what you anticipated became a reality in your passing

Sad, it has been
Remorse, it has caused
Closeness between all Cree Nation members was gained

Sharing and caring was communicated
While a nation was united
You will be, both, missed very much, by so many.

May you rest in peace.

Allen L. Cooper
Member,
Waswanipi First Nation

-William Nicholls

James A. Shecapio and his daughter Amanda were involved in a fatal automobile accident on Tuesday, October 21st. The shockwaves of their untimely deaths spread throughout the Cree Nation. No one could have predicted the number of people who would arrive in Mistissini to pay their respects and mourn for James and Amanda.

There are others who will tell you about James and what he meant to them and the Cree Nation. Looking at James from a journalist's perspective, I would say he had no hidden agendas, everything was above board with him, he drew people together and helped them recognize what they had in common. The voice of reason, one man called him. He took a job that was undoubtedly difficult and unlike most others had no salary, but James persisted because it was needed. From what I knew personally and was told by other people, he never displayed anger or fought around people. The list goes on.

Hearing what people had to say about James, I would try to make such a person my friend knowing that my life would be enriched by knowing him. I did call James my friend and my life was richer because of it. The staff at The Nation extends our condolences to the family and friends of James and Amanda. Their loss is one the Cree Nation felt as a whole. Rest in peace.

Correction on Community Centre story

Letter to *The Nation*:

I have read with interest and appreciation your article titled, "Noble steps towards the future," published in the edition of October 10, 1997, of *The Nation*.

On behalf of the Cree Nation of Eastmain, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the constant support extended by your editors and the staff of your magazine *The Nation* to our endeavour to provide a community centre and an arena for our Members and most particularly our Youth.

However, I would appreciate if a correction could be made with regards to the first paragraph of your article. You started, "Eastmain is pushing ahead with plans to build an arena which will house a place for the Elders to meet, the children to have a daycare and for the youth of the community to have a place to play hockey throughout the blistery cold winter months, amongst other activities."

The Eastmain Community Centre will



indeed be composed of many areas such as an arena, a community centre with a place for the Elders to meet, a Youth facility among others. It is very important however to state clearly that the Eastmain Community Centre will not include a place for the children to have a daycare. The Wabannutao Day Care facility is presently being constructed in a totally different area, more than one kilometre away from the Eastmain Community Centre. There is absolutely no relation between the proposed Eastmain Community Centre and the Day Care facility.

The Wabannutao Day Care facility is constructed with funding received specifically for this purpose. The Cree

Nation of Eastmain is responsible for the construction which will then be placed under the full authority of the Wabannutao Day Care Corporation, a non-profit organization established for the purposes of running the Day Care facility and activities.

It is important to differentiate the Day Care facility in view of the funding received from several entities. You will certainly understand our preoccupations to ensure that no confusion may be forthcoming as a result of the wording used in the article. As we all know, certain misconceptions may endure for a long time and may affect negotiations for future funding to be received pursuant to the commitments made in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

Considering the constant support of your magazine, we would appreciate if a correction could be printed as soon as possible in the next edition in order to prevent any misconceptions which may jeopardize our position.

Thanking you again for your efforts and your support, I remain,

Yours truly,
Chief Kenneth Gilpin, Eastmain

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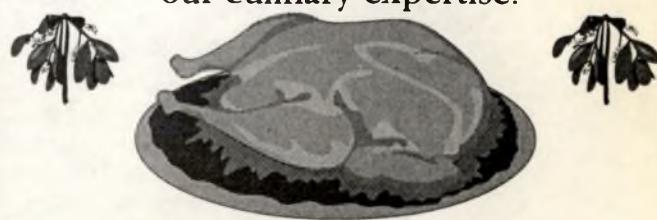
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HYDRO-CREE COLD WAR HEATS UP

by William Nicholls

Whapmagoostui is back in international waters in its fight against the idea that Hydro-Quebec might endanger their river and homeland. A tour was recently launched to draw attention to the issue in the U.S.

On October 14 at Dartmouth College, the official tour launch was off and running. The tour is designed to draw U.S. attention to Hydro-Quebec's recently announced plans to revive aspects of the controversial James Bay II hydroelectric project.

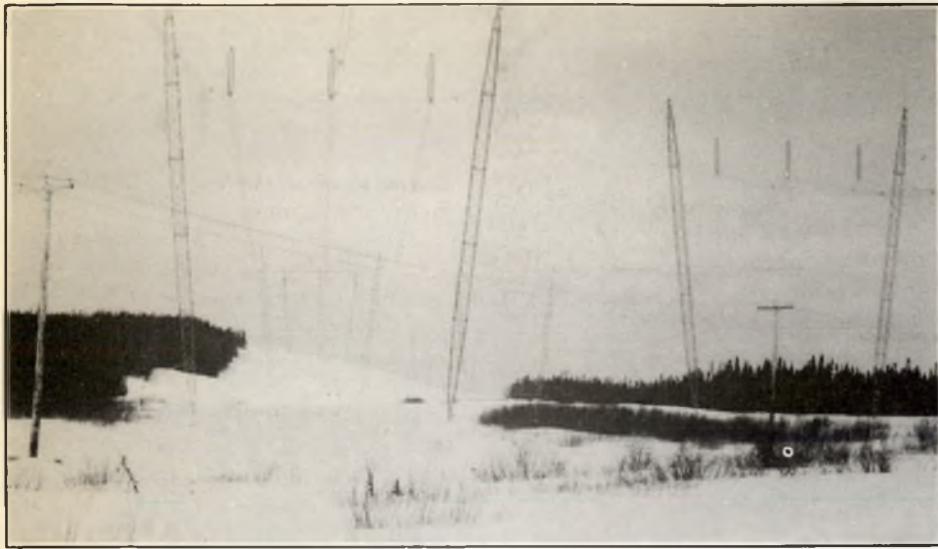
Cree activist Diane Reid and Chief Matthew Mukash of Great Whale head up the tour. Accompanying them on their journey is *POWER*, the documentary on the first fight. *POWER* follows the successful five-year international campaign waged between 1990 and 1995 to stop continued development on their homeland. The tour will take in more than 25 locations throughout the U.S. Northeast.

The new allies to the fight are the film's producers. They are organizing the film and lecture tour in collaboration with Whapmagoostui First Nation. Tour organizers say they want to sensitize Americans living in the Northeastern United States to the issue since they are the major purchasers of Quebec hydroelectricity. They also see the tour as a way of renewing old contacts. Crees remember the impact that New England and New York environmental groups played in the cancellation of Hydro-Quebec's original proposal.

Under the new proposal, Hydro-Quebec would divert the Great Whale and Rupert rivers into existing hydro facilities. Even though this is early in the fight Deputy Chief David Masty of Whapmagoostui said, "It's better to attack the idea before it materializes any further and much money is spent on it."

Tour organizers say the film will be of particular interest to those concerned about Native and environmental issues.

Robert Kennedy Jr., a member of the National Resources Defense Council, described *POWER* as "a manual for indigenous people, for environmentalists and human rights groups about how to battle successfully a project like Great Whale."



HYDRO WON'T RELEASE EMERGENCY PLANS

Hydro-Quebec will not release any of its emergency preparations for a dam failure in the La Grande system.

The utility also won't release any studies on the diversion of the Great Whale and Rupert rivers; information on the water levels in the reservoirs; or six blanked-out pages in a report on the safety of the dams in the North.

All this and more was requested by *The Nation* under the Access to Information Act. After being turned down, *The Nation* launched an appeal to the Access to Information Commission. A hearing is scheduled for next February at which arguments will be presented.

In an interview, Ghislain Ouellet, Hydro's executive vice-president of production, said some studies can't be released because they were written by engineers whose point of view may be subject to debate.

"It's a point of view that could be debated with other experts. An engineer could say something isn't good, whereas others may say it's fine," Ouellet explained.

"(In emergency planning) we always speak of an extreme theoretical situation. When you say LG-1 or LG-2 will completely disappear, you will agree it's a situation that is completely theoretical. I have total confidence that the community of Chisasibi is in no danger at all."

Ouellet said six pages in the safety report were blanked out because they discuss safety at dams outside the Cree territory. But doesn't any citizen have the right to this information, regardless of where the dams are? "Theoretically, yes," Ouellet said.

Ouellet also confirmed that Hydro plans to cut the number of inspectors working in the

North, but denied the cuts will be as big as Hydro unions fear. "It's alarmist to speak of significant cuts," he said.

The cut is likely to be "less than 10 per cent," said Ouellet. Some of the utility's employees in the North are underworked and "do almost nothing," he added. "These could be cut or reallocated to other areas."

A 50-per-cent cut in the number of safety inspectors was spoken of in a one-page document leaked to Hydro's Professional and Office Employees' Union, said Jacques Rodier, union vice-president. "The health of the dams is good. What would put them in peril would be to lower the number of inspections," said Rodier, himself an inspector at LG-2. "It's now at the minimum level. We can't go lower than that."

Sylvain Lesage, another union official, said inspectors are important to detecting problems early before they get serious. "Inspection is a little like insurance. If you cut the number of inspections by half, you double the risk. It's sure it's not a big risk, but it's still two times as big."

Lesage said Hydro is motivated by a policy of "risk-management." Under the policy, it's a better investment to station inspectors in more populated areas because that's where there is higher potential liability in the event of dam problems. Lesage said the calculation of potential liability includes an estimate of how much each human life is worth in dollars.

Hydro spokesman Jean-Claude Lefebvre denied Lesage's claims. "Be assured, we don't evaluate how much a life is worth. There is no risk we judge acceptable. Our policy is zero-risk. We have inspectors where there are dams, not where there is population."

by Alex Roslin



Mistissini Sports & Recreation

Cree Nation of Mistissini, Quebec

On behalf of the Minor Hockey and Broomball Association and the Mistissini Sports and Recreation Department, we are pleased to inform you that our Annual Minor Hockey and Broomball Tournament will be held in Mistissini on November 20, 21, 22 & 23, 1997.

ANNUAL INVITATIONAL MISTISSINI MINOR HOCKEY & BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT

We are officially inviting you to participate in our Annual Minor Hockey and Broomball Tournament. The registration form must be completed, signed and returned with the inscription fee no later than **November 14, 1997**.

CATEGORIES	TEAMS	INSCRIPTION FEE	CHAMPIONS	FINALISTS
Pre-Novice Hockey	Eight (8)	\$150.00	\$500.00	\$250.00
Novice Hockey	Eight (8)	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Atom Hockey	Eight (8)	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Peewee Hockey	Eight (8)	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Novice Broomball	Eight (8)	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Cadette Broomball	Eight (8)	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Midget Broomball	Eight (8)	\$350.00	\$1,500.00	\$750.00

*Additional Prizes: Trophies and Medals will be awarded to the finalists. Individual awards will also be presented to all categories. Also games stars will be selected in all the games. Prize money may vary depending on the number of teams that register.

THIS TOURNAMENT IS ORGANIZED FOR THE INTENTION OF
GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AND GOOD FRIENDLY SPIRIT.

****NOTE:
DEADLINE FOR INSCRIPTIONS IS NOVEMBER 14, 1997.**

For more information contact Jean-Baptiste Loon or Robie Petawabano
at the Recreation Office (418) 923-3461.

Inter-Cite League Bantam CC Division

TEAMS	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
Rouyn-Noranda	7	5	1	1	29	21	11
Chibougamau	8	5	2	1	30	16	11
Amos	6	5	1	0	36	15	10
Malartic	7	4	3	0	33	21	8
Cree Nation Bears	8	4	4	0	32	32	8
Ville-Marie	9	4	5	0	31	30	8
Ste-Germaine	7	3	3	1	15	17	7
Quevillon	9	3	6	0	22	36	6
Val d'Or	7	1	5	1	15	36	3
Evain	6	1	5	0	18	35	2

PLAYER, NUMBER, POSITION	GP	G	A	Pts.
Matoush, Jerry 19, LW	8	7	8	15
Sam, Matthew 15, RW	7	7	5	12
Neeposh, David 17, LW	5	4	4	8
Swallow, Stanley, 14, RW	7	2	4	6
Cooper, Naaman, 3, C	8	4	2	6
Swallow, Christopher, 6, D	8	2	2	4
Shecapio, Romeo, 7, LW	7	1	2	3
Metable, Andy, 12, C	7	0	3	3
Coonishish, Jordan, 18, D	8	0	3	3
Blackned, Murray, 2, LW	8	1	2	3
Neeposh, Clayton, 8, RW	5	1	1	2
Gunner, Abednego, 4, D	8	1	1	2
Bobbish, Wayne, 9, D	7	2	0	2
Neeposh, Tommy, 11, D	7	1	0	1
Blacksmith, Emmanuel, 5, D	8	1	0	1
Stewart, Ian, 13, RW	7	0	0	0
Lameboy, Roger, 10, LW	6	0	0	0
Georgekish, Justin, 16, C	1	0	0	0
Snowboy, Eric, 1, G, Goals Against: 12, Goals Avg: 3%				
Brien, Peterson, 30, G, GA: 20, Goals Avg: 5%				
(All scores effective Oct. 27)				



COMMUNITY ASSETS

George Shecapio can be seen around the community of Mistissini. He collects not garbage but the valuables thrown out every day. He sorts through disposed material from the schools, fishing out aluminum pop cans. He also checks out the roadside for the cans. Each one that he takes makes the community that much more beautiful as well as helping the environment.

He's even helping to save electricity. High amounts of electricity are needed to produce aluminum. By recycling the can he is helping to save the environment and diminish the need for the Great Whale and Rupert hydro-

electric projects. Shecapio says he found most of the cans with the tabs off. He told *The Nation* one youngster had been collecting the tabs for money and asked him if it was true they weren't worth anything.

Well, they aren't worth much at 40 cents a pound, but the cans are. "It's a little money for the kids," says Shecapio.

Community Assets is a new feature in *The Nation*. Please send in names of people who you think are an asset to your community and why they are. In this way we can recognize in each other all the good that we do for each other to make our communities a better place. Phone 514.272.3077 and ask for Nell or Will or fax information to 514.278.9914.

YEAH, WE GOT BOOKS

Announcing *The Nation's* first ever book column. We'll be reviewing books from all over. If there's a book you loved, hated or mutilated and you'd like us to do a review or want to do one yourself, give us a call. Comments, tips, whatever. 514.272.3077. This week, something a little out of the ordinary to kick it off...

THE ILLUMINATUS! TRILOGY
BY ROBERT ANTON WILSON
AND ROBERT SHEA

BANTAM DOUBLEDAY DELL PUBLISHING GROUP, 1975, NEW YORK

I am on page 598 of this 805-page book and I'm still not sure who's the good guys and who's the bad guys. This cult classic from the 70s is definitely one of the strangest, most mind-bending books in print.

Full of bizarre conspiracies which just might be true, this book reveals who killed JFK, why there's a pyramid on the U.S. dollar bill, how people from Atlantis founded the United States and the story of the hash-smoking Muslim assassins known as Hashishim. Then there is the far-out cult that may or may not be from outer space which wants to kill everyone just to get an unforgettable high. Now that's one serious craving! These guys make the bikers who blew up our neighbourhood bar the other day look like Snufalupagus. But the wacked-out guys who want to stop them may be far worse. I'm not really sure! The authors love to not only keep you guessing, but turn your reality upside down and inside out. It's a trip, boy!

Get your copy in your friendly local bookstore or by calling Bantam on 666 Fifth Ave. (no joke!), New York, NY. 212.354.6500

Grieving after the loss of my son, Benjamin

By Susan Esau

When I heard of another young man's passing recently, I felt I needed to share with those who are grieving. I hope that it may bring some comfort to them. Susan E.

I want to share with you my experience of the pain and grief after losing a second son to death. I believe that my sharing will help someone who might be experiencing the same pain of losing someone they love.

I was blessed with four children, three handsome boys and a beautiful daughter. I have Kevin and Melanie whom I love very dearly. They share this painful experience with me. They provide the comfort during the hardest and darkest times in my life. My oldest son Merle committed suicide in August 1992. Ben passed away unexpectedly this summer. They both live on in my heart and in the precious memories they left behind.

My youngest son passed away on August 20 1997. He was a young man who just turned eighteen years old exactly six months before that fateful day. That day started like any other day. We all woke up and started our day like any other. School had started a few days before and he seemed to be enthusiastic and committed to finishing his secondary V. He had abandoned his studies in frustration a few months before the end of last year. That evening he went to play basketball with his friends and I went to my meeting. A few hours later, he collapsed while playing and he was lying in the clinic with a team of nurses and a doctor around him, trying desperately to make him breathe and get his heart beating. I was standing there holding his hand and stroking his hair and urging him to breathe. It was the most helpless and frustrating situation that I ever found myself in. As any parent, I wanted to be the one lying on that bed, I wanted to be the one in his place. At the same time I was trying to pray but I couldn't find the words. I had hopes that with all the modern equipment and the new technology of today, they will successfully revive him and he will be okay. Somehow he will get up and be his normal self and be a bit embarrassed about the commotion and concern for him. An hour had passed after he was brought in, there still was no sign of Ben breathing on his own. Minutes later a plane took him away, along with a doctor and a nurse to the nearest hospital. I was told later that their lifesaving efforts did not stop all the way to the hospital.

I was still hopeful as I packed my overnight bag. I waited for a flight to take me to him. I packed a change of clothes for him, thinking we will be coming home together in a few days. The time slowly passed as I waited for a plane to arrive or for a call from the hospital to tell me he was all right. I don't remember the time when they came to tell me that he died. I just remember feeling



Benjamin Esau last summer

this unbearable pain, thinking that he will not be coming home alive. I cried and cried until I couldn't cry anymore. I remember feeling angry and not wanting to believe what was happening. I wanted to wake up from this nightmare and everything would be okay again. When I'm in my normal mental state, I understand that death is a part of life, which is the end of our life cycle, but at that time, I refused to comprehend that the Creator has destined his life to end that evening. I was thinking how unfair and cruel God could be to have him die at such a young age. I felt that the time I had with him wasn't long enough. I selfishly wanted him to be close to me, to feel his love, to hear his joyous laughter and to put his arms around me for a hug as he often did. I wanted to hear his voice, I wanted to laugh at his mischievous ways. I wanted to tell him I love him and say all the things that I left unsaid. I wanted him back alive. I wanted my son back with me. Now I know he is with me spiritually but I still long for his physical presence. I have a hard time accepting that he is not coming back. I haven't reached that part of my grieving. I still momentarily forget that he is gone for good, I sometimes think he is at home.

Prior to the funeral when my family and friends were with me I

felt comfort. At the same time I wanted them to leave me alone. I wanted everyone to go away. I felt if they left, Ben would be back. I had all these mixed feelings. I wanted to crawl in a hole and die. I was in shock. I was in shock. I was so angry at the Creator, I couldn't even pray. I was going through the motions of living, making decisions for the funeral, comforting people, reading cards and accepting the food and flowers that were brought to the house. I shed so many tears and I really wished that this nightmare would come to an end. At times, I would think that I understood what was happening, but I didn't think that I had enough courage and strength to face it. I wanted to run away. Although I had these people around me showing their love and support, I felt so alone and so hurt. I thought nobody understood what I was feeling. Now I know that these thoughtful and concerned people help ease the burden of carrying the immense anguish alone. The funeral itself was a blur of events. I somehow found the strength to pay my final tribute to Ben. I kept thinking that it was a dream that I would wake up from soon.

Today, I am still mourning for my son. I have experienced this painful process before. I am learning that grief is not the same for every loss. The profound pain is the same. Each person that touches our lives affects us differently. Each person that loses someone is different. Each grief is unique. I hope to help others understand and accept that their emotions and feelings are normal. That one must deal with grief in their own way to what is acceptable to them.

These days, I still have my ups and downs. When I feel the unbearable pain, sometimes I still wish there was some pill to relieve the ache in my heart, but there's no such thing. Only time can heal this pain. There are days when I still get angry. I want to hit something or somebody, but I don't know what or who. I feel like throwing a tantrum. I want to scream and throw things around. I have found some positive ways to help me through my grieving. I have friends and other people I can talk to. I also find comfort in praying. I cry when I need to and I am thankful that my children understand the tears that I must shed. I don't have to hide the tears from them. They share my grief with understanding and compassion. I know there will be many more tears. The writing I am doing is a big part of my grieving and my eventual healing. I know that I will find acceptance one day as I had with the loss of my other son. I don't know how much time that will require. I take it one day at a time. I find comfort in the belief that the Creator came to take Ben home. There is a sense of serenity in believing we will be together again some day.

When I think back on that evening when Ben and I crossed paths for the last time and went about our ways. How I wish that I had taken the time to tell him that I loved him and that I was very proud of him. When I think about my son, Ben so young, healthy and athletic, death was something that never entered my mind and much less expected. I assumed that my children would outlive me. I cannot question the reason the Creator chose to take Ben back. I know that He had given me the privilege to love him and to have him share his life with me and his brothers and his sister and girlfriend Flora. These words of wisdom that my grandmother once said came to mind, "That the children we have are not ours to keep, they are God's children, and he puts them in our care for

a time and he takes them back when the time comes." I understand that the Creator has a purpose for us in life. Ben had served his purpose. I understand that life is precious, that I must live it to the fullest and not hold back the unconditional love that I should be sharing with people, especially my children. I demonstrate my love for them in any way I can in my daily life. I find some peace in knowing that Ben died knowing that I loved him very much and this love didn't end that day.

I wish to express my thanks to those who made every effort to save Ben's life. My gratitude goes to the people who sent cards and flowers, for the prayers and words of comfort and to those that contributed in any way. On behalf of my children Kevin and Melanie and of Ben's girlfriend Flora, I thank you so much. A special acknowledgement is extended to the youth that came and brought solace to us during this painful time. Your demonstration of the tremendous love and compassion has indeed eased the burden that my family and I had to bear. May God bless all of you! I thank God, my Creator for the gifts that He has given me, my life and my children, Merle, Kevin, Benjamin and Melanie.

Finally, I want to share this poem that I read during the funeral. It was taken from one of the Chicken Soup for the Soul books. The author is unknown. I felt that this poem was the appropriate legacy that Ben would leave for me and the rest of us who knew and loved him.

The Legacy

When I die, give what is left of me to children
If you need to cry, cry for your brothers walking beside you
Put your arms around anyone and give them what you need to
give me

I want to leave you with something,
Something better than words or sounds.

Look for me in the people I have known and loved

And if you cannot live without me,
Then let me live on in your eyes, your mind

and your acts of kindness

You can love me most by letting hands touching hands,
And letting go of children that need to be free.

Love does not die, people do
So when all that is left of me is love...

Give me away...

BROKEN PROMISES TO CREE ENTREPRENEURS

Under the James Bay Agreement, Canada and Quebec and their agencies including the James Bay Development Corporation, Hydro Quebec and the James Bay Energy Corporation are supposed to help Cree entrepreneurs obtain the business contracts and training necessary so that Crees can take part in all development activity throughout Eeyou Estchee.

This hasn't happened.

For example, they are supposed to be encouraging Crees to own and operate gas stations on the main highways. They are supposed to negotiate contracts, like snow plowing and other services needed in the territory, with Crees.

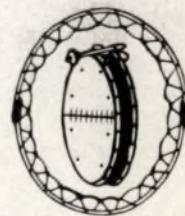
They haven't done it.

In fact, Quebec and its agencies see themselves as business rivals to the Crees rather than partners.

It's time the door was opened so Cree entrepreneurs can take their proper place in the economic activity of their homeland.

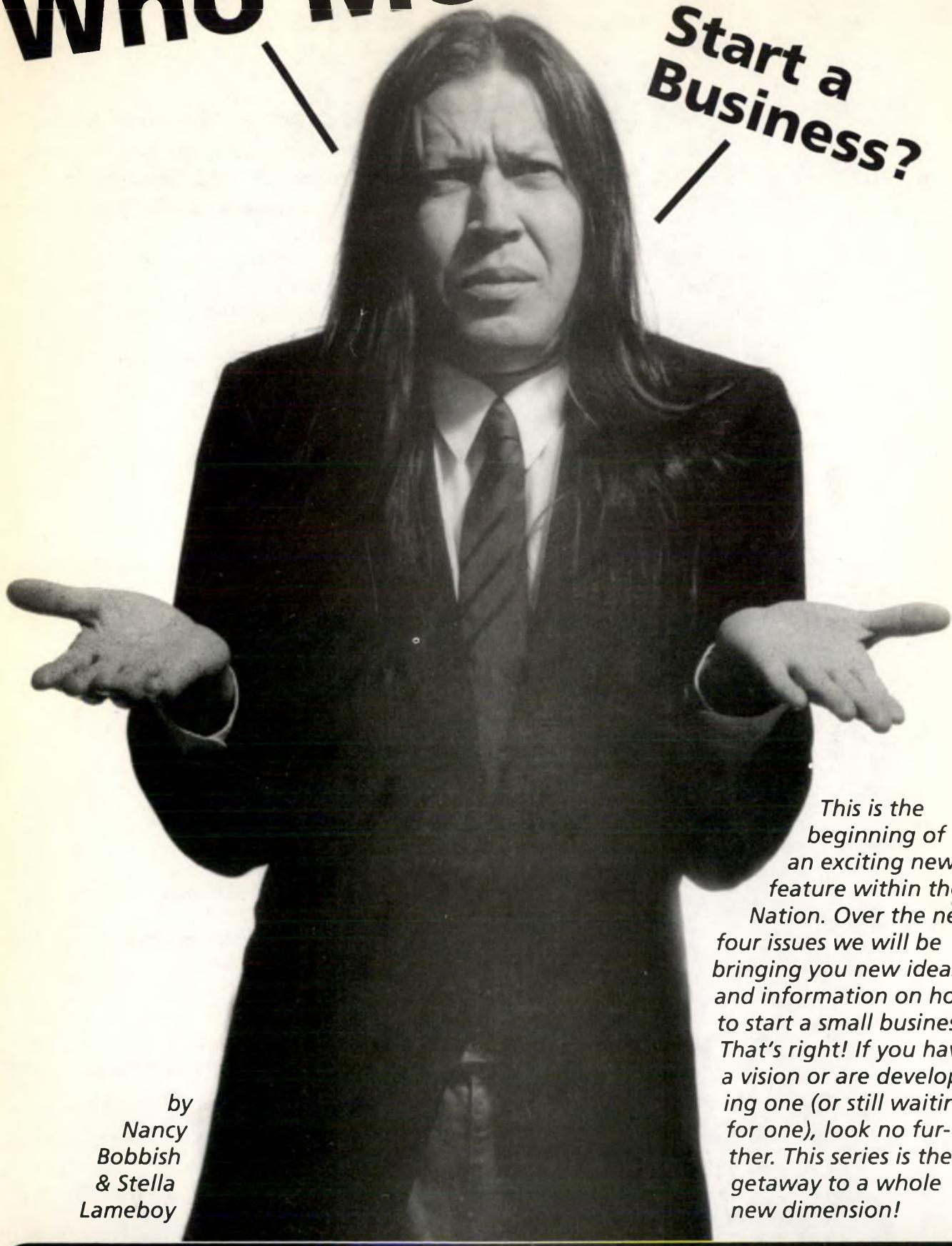
The Grand Council of the Crees is fighting to make these promises a reality. But while we fight, people should be getting ready to take up these opportunities once the doors are open. So get yourself started. Open a small business. Get the experience. Have something to offer.

GET YOURSELF READY.



Who Me?

Start a Business?

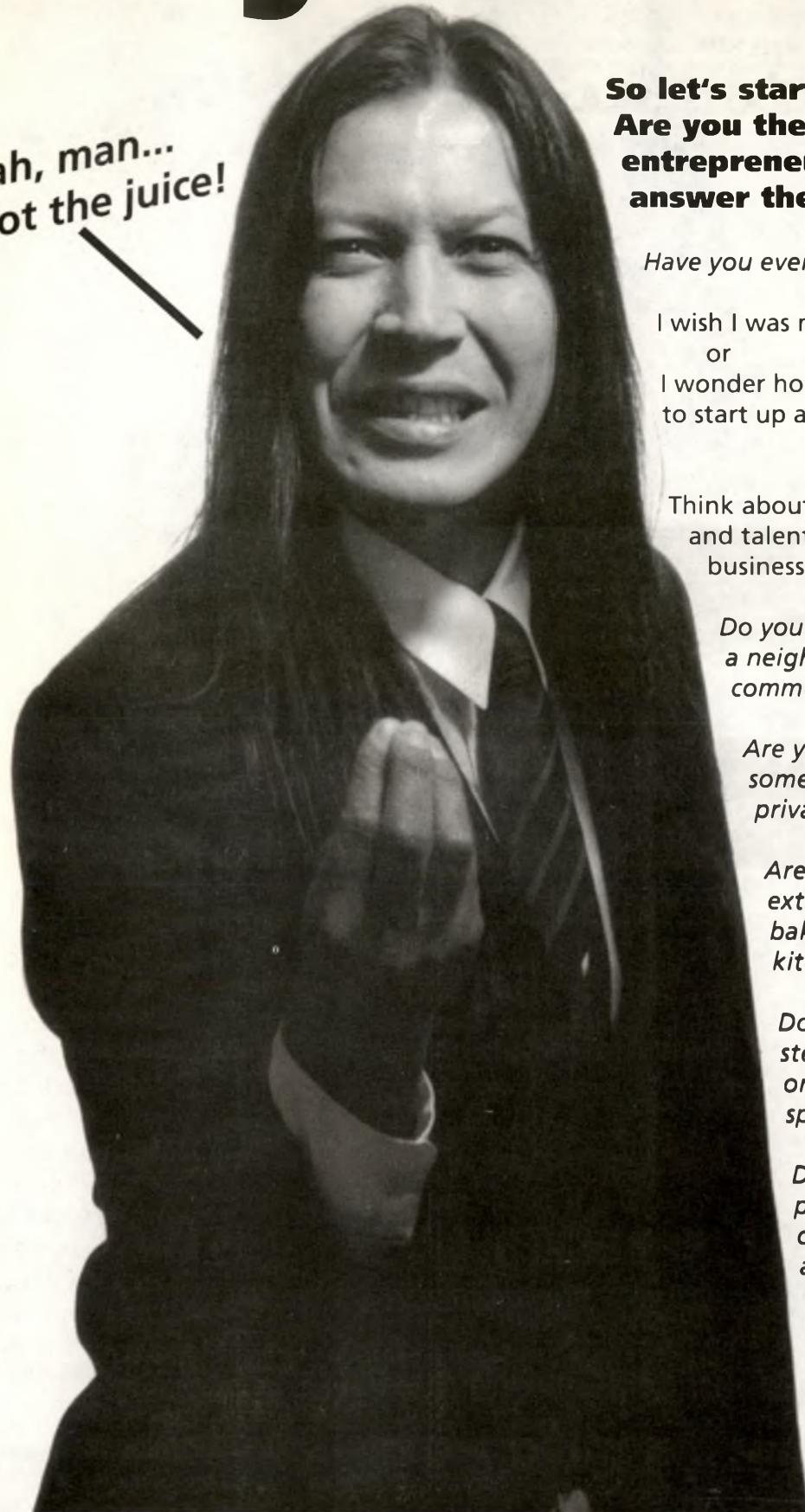


by
Nancy
Bobbish
& Stella
Lameboy

This is the beginning of an exciting new feature within the Nation. Over the next four issues we will be bringing you new ideas and information on how to start a small business. That's right! If you have a vision or are developing one (or still waiting for one), look no further. This series is the getaway to a whole new dimension!

**This first instalment of the Entrepreneurial series
has been sponsored by the Grand Council of the Crees.**

Do you have v



Yeah, man...
I got the juice!

**So let's start at the beginning.
Are you the type to be a good
entrepreneur? To find out,
answer these simple questions.**

Have you ever thought ...

*I wish I was my own boss...
or*

*I wonder how hard it would be
to start up a business?*

*Think about it, you probably possess skills
and talents that could put you into
business.*

*Do you sometimes do handy-work for
a neighbour, friend or elder in your
community?*

*Are you an expert seamstress who
sometimes sell their creations
privately?*

*Are you a baker or chef
extraordinaire who sells their
baked goods right out of the
kitchen?*

*Do you maybe fix: bikes, toys,
stereos, washers & dryers, VCRs
or other equipment in your
spare time?*

*Do you know about plumbing,
painting, electrical wiring,
carpentry or even yard-work
and landscaping?*

*How are you at organizing
events, putting together
shows or activities?*

What it takes?

EVER THOUGHT OF TURNING YOUR SKILLS, TALENTS AND ENERGY INTO A BUSINESS OWNED AND RUN BY NONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF?

TAKE THE TEST

Do you have the entrepreneurial spirit?

1. How would you best describe yourself?

- A. Hard working and full of energy
- B. Works well when interested
- C. Can't get up before noon
- D. Couch potato

2. Have you ever thought of starting a business?

- A. It's a dream
- B. I think about it from time to time
- C. Nope!
- D. I don't know...Me... Are you serious?

3. A business means: _____

- A. Commitment
- B. Being your own boss
- C. Ripping people off
- D. Having a stroke!

If you have answered mainly A or B, you could be on your way to becoming an entrepreneur. But if you have answered mainly C or D, do not despair. Stick with us: the entrepreneurial bug might bite you yet!

TRUE OR FALSE

I'll get rich quick! **T or F**

I'll be working like a dog **T or F**

I need lots of money to start **T or F**

REALITY:

- 1) **False:** Do not expect to make millions the first year (or maybe ever). It takes a business at least 2 years to establish itself. If you're looking for instant financial gratification ... keep looking!
- 2) **True:** You will probably work harder than you've ever worked in your life. Success in a new business is 1% a good idea and 99% hard work. But if you're doing something you love, if you have a partner or a group of people working with you - it will be the most satisfying work you've ever done.
- 3) **False:** In fact, it's better to start small and grow with your business. Don't wait for that \$100,000 loan (You might not live that long). Look at C. Brien from Mistissini. He started Denise Restaurant with nothing but two coleman stoves. Save your money, borrow what you can and *Just Do It.*

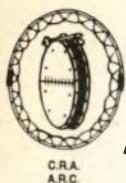
What best describes your beliefs?

1. Doing something new stimulates me, I like to explore.
2. I like to work from 9-5, because many other things besides work are important to me.
3. When I start something, I don't give up easily no matter what the obstacles are.
4. Instead of being in charge, I'd rather someone else tell me what needs to be done – and I do it.
5. I prefer people who propose new (even strange) ideas, even if they involve taking a risk.
6. I prefer to do things in ways that have already been proven to work. Then I like to improve on them.
7. I work well alone and with others, no one needs to hold my hand.
8. I want to get rich quick. That's my idea of a good business.
9. I like to go to social gatherings even though I don't know anybody there.
10. I prefer staying at home on weekends.

If you've answered positively to 1,3,5,7,9, you're a definite candidate for entrepreneurship. If you answered positively to 2,4,6,8,10, your skills and personality type would be an asset to any entrepreneur. It takes a risk-taker with initiative to start a business, but it also takes a practical and grounded person to help run it.

If you are interested or have been thinking about having your own business, follow the Cree Entrepreneurial Series for ideas, tips, and information on small business development.

We welcome all of your suggestions, ideas and any issues you would like us to address regarding small business development. So please send your comments to **The Nation** to the attention of: Nancy Bobbish and Stella Lameboy.



ΔΡΡ° C_ΕΡΠΛ

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ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRIE

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NEMASKA, (QUEBEC) J0Y 3B0



G.C.C.O.

Job Posting

OPEN POSITION: Secretary
Cree Regional Authority Youth Department
LOCATION OF WORK: Nemaska, Quebec
COMPETITION NUMBER: NEM-433

The Cree Nation Youth Council through the Cree Regional Authority Youth Department is seeking a resourceful and highly motivated individual to perform a range of administrative, clerical and secretarial duties in a Secretary position located at the head office of the Cree Nation in Nemaska, Quebec.

The successful applicant will be under the general direction of the Cree Nation Youth Council, but more specifically under the supervision of the Director of the Youth Department.

The successful candidate should have a high school diploma and some post secondary training in secretarial/administration; and/or experience in a similar position; strong administrative and organizational skills; familiarity with word processing and computer equipment; ability to speak and write English, fluency in Cree; knowledge of French would be an asset; ability to work well under pressure and independently with minimum supervision; high sense of confidentiality.

EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS:

Regular full-time position
35 hours/week

Salary for the above position will commensurate with experience and qualifications. If you meet the requirements for the above position, please forward your resume mentioning the competition number:

NEM-433 by November 7, 1997 to:

Selection Committee
Cree Regional Authority
2 Lakeshore Road
Nemaska, Quebec
J0Y 3B0

Telephone: (819) 673-2600
Fax: (819) 673-2606

LES MINES
INMET

The Troilus Project is a division of Inmet Mining Corporation, a Canadian mining company engaged in exploration, development and processing of base and precious metals internationally.

The Troilus Project is situated 175 km north of Chibougamau and is accessible by way of the Route du Nord. The employees will work on a 4-3 or 7-7 shift schedule and will be provided with room and board at its first-class camp on site. The company is presently searching for candidates to fill the following position at its Troilus Project, an open-pit gold mining operation.

The Position: Metallurgist

The Metallurgist reports to the Chief Metallurgist. The incumbent provides mineral processing services for the efficient recovery of gold and copper from the ore.

Requirements:

- A bachelor's degree in mineral processing, metallurgical materials or chemical engineering or an appropriate related engineering discipline is required;
- Two (2) years experience in mineral concentration as a metallurgist;
- Working knowledge of French and English.

Main Duties:

The Metallurgist performs some or all of the following duties:

- Conducts studies and assists to design, develops and specifies the processes and machinery to concentrate, extracts, refines and processes the ore;
- Utilizes the latest technologies within a high technology work environment.

THE CONDITIONS:

Inmet Mining Corporation (Troilus Project) offers relocation assistance, a competitive salary, complemented by a comprehensive range of company-paid employee benefits. The positions are open to men and women. Also, Inmet Mining Corporation encourages and is committed to Cree hiring. Inmet Mining Corporation thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Interested candidates should submit their resume, before November 17th, 1997 indicating the position of interest, to:

INMET MINING CORPORATION
TROILUS PROJECT
Director of Human Resources
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Quebec)
G8P 3A9

Reference (Position Title): Metallurgist

The Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay (Quebec), a Cree-controlled entity, is entering an exciting and challenging phase of organizational development. It is looking for an outstanding individual to serve as

Assistant Executive Director — Administration

Using your proven dynamic leadership and administrative skills, you will lead a team of five managers responsible for the administrative services (finance, purchasing, facilities & maintenance, human resources management and human resources development) provided to line management and the organization at-large.

Reporting to the Executive Director and in partnership with the Assistant Executive Director — Health & Social Services, you will be highly involved in our organizational development.

Ideally, the breadth of your background includes a results oriented management experience of 3-7 years in the public or private sector and a degree in public administration or the equivalent. Knowledge of the Ministry of Health and Social Services regulations is an asset and fluency in both official languages is essential. Additional assets you may bring are experience in First Nations organizations and knowledge of First Nations health or social issues.

The environment requires an executive with superior interpersonal, communication, planning and implementation skills. Past success in human resource management and finance is a must.

A competitive salary and northern benefits consisting of northern allowance, housing, moving & storage are offered to the successful candidate, who will be based in Chisasibi.

To pursue this challenge of contributing to the development of the board, forward your resume by November 15, 1997 to:

James Bobbish
Executive Director
Cree Board of Health & Social Services
Box 250
Chisasibi, Quebec J0M 1E0
Tel: (819) 855-2844, Fax: (819) 855-2098



In Memorium



Let Us Remember Our Youth

The Cree Nation was shocked when we learned about the sudden and tragic loss of James A. Shecapio and his daughter Amanda. James was a rising young leader. He was the former Youth Chief and then was presently the Chairman of the Cree Board of Health and Social Services.

All of his life James worked to improve the lives of others. He displayed wisdom beyond his years. He saw that the youth needed to be involved with the day to day operations of the Cree communities and in the ongoing struggle to protect our rights as the Cree People.

Amanda was raised to follow in the footsteps of her father. She was certainly, along with his surviving child, a guiding light in his efforts to make the world a better place for the Cree youth. Their passing should remind us of the fragility of life and the importance to do the best we can every day to work together toward our common interests in our youth.

The youth are the future of the Cree Nation. Whatever we can do to help them to appreciate and understand the importance of our culture, language, environment and the viability of our communities will be important to the continuation of our heritage and the health of our communities in the future. We the Cree leaders have the responsibility to open the doors for the youth to bring them into the circle of leadership, as they are the hope of the Cree People.

My deepest sympathy goes out to the Shecapio family and his fiancée Francine Weistche.

Franklin C. Gove

Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come



ΔΓ<ΔΓΩΔ ΔΓΓΔΔΓΩΔ ΔΓΩΔ (DVB
 Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)
 Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)



Between Friends (with Deantha & Nian)

The joys of having a boyfriend?

Isn't having a boyfriend the greatest? Most of the time, yes, but what about all those annoying little habits that you have to put up with? When it's love, you learn to compromise and understand each other's quirks and bad habits, and in the end, it's all worth it! If you're single, appreciate what you've got on your own - after

you find the right guy you may never be the same again! Watch out - if you are with someone who takes more from you than he gives back, don't expect him to change. Stop fooling yourself - you deserve the best!

Here is a look at the ups and downs of having a guy in your life:

PROS

You can finally stop searching for Mr. Right
 You have someone to help with the housework
 You're so proud of him for getting the most geese
 If you're living together you can finally afford cable
 You get to wear all of his comfy, oversized clothes
 He's there to take care of you when you're sick
 You have someone to bitch and complain to
 You have someone to snuggle up with in bed
 You have someone to dance with to all your favorite sappy songs

CONS

You can no longer admire Mr. Right-Now from afar
 He creates a bigger mess than you've ever seen
 You're the lucky girl who gets to pluck them all
 You learn more about the NHL than you've ever wanted to
 You have to pick them up off the floor and wash them first
 He stubs his toe and whines about it for days
 He bitches and complains to everyone else about you
 He hogs the blankets
 The only time he dances is when his favorite team scores a goal

The Twilight Zone

Your Horoscope

By Thelma & Louise

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Okay, so folks haven't been nice to you. Big deal! Grow-up. Maybe you haven't been nice to the folks. Ever thought of that? We're tired of giving you advice you don't use. This is your last warning: or else we will use that "Bomb-de-Terre" on you!

Pisces (Feb 19-March 20) Come on's are coming your way. Prepare for dinner a la bedroom. It's all about love, love, love. All we are saying is give peace a chance. Even to those cold amphibians you call friends. Give them a break of that Kit-Kat bar.

Aries (March 20-April 19) It's a marathon telephonefest at your place for some reason. What's the occasion? Did your neighbor have a bowel movement? You felt it was your duty as a moral civilian to inform the world. All around the world, where you stop nobody knows.

Taurus (April 20-May 19) Your life is a yellow light. Proceed like Villeneuve and hit the petal to the metal. Admit it, you are the yellow light. Everything you touch turns to gold. So be careful where you touch yourself.

Gemini (May 20-June 21) You are like an octopus. You are in a sea of floating jelly. You are in control of this world. You have the stamina of a seahorse. Caution: do not swim in uncharted waters. Consequences could be fatal.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Bell wants you as their national spokesperson. Why? The phone is ringing off the hook at your house. Every smooth operator wants your number. Your answering machine should say, the number you have dialed is not available.

Leo (July 23-Aug 22) What about love? Don't you want someone to care about you? Don't let it slip away. If single, take a risk. Life is a risk then you die. Remember it's about living life without regrets or not living at all.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) We lost our thoughts. We'll get back to you next issue. Just kidding! We wouldn't forget the most innocent sign of the zodiac (or so you would like them to believe). It will be easy street this month. Only if you stand in the right place on the right night.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) It's all a smoky dream. Maxing out the plastic is not a good idea. Showers of gold and silver are not meant for you my dear Libra. But be optimistic. Hard work will pay-off tenfold.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Don't promise anyone anything you can't deliver. Yes, old habits will be hard to die. A train of intensity is speeding down your way at full steam. Get ready to rumble, on the street or in your sheets!

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 22) You're one spooky son of a bitch. Where did all those weird ideas come from? Are you a member of the Psychic connection or what? Use the power wisely. May the force be with you my sister/brother/etc.

Capricorn (Dec 23-Jan 19) Work, work, work. Don't complain. This was your idea remember. Scope out the singles during the day. Use the night wisely and get your beauty sleep. The night-life urges should be expressed only in REM sleep.

We are the people, Lucien Bouchard cries out!

We are Eeyou/Eenou, we cry out!

We are Inuit, our northern brothers and sisters cry out.

We are Innu, the Montagnais cry out.

I thought that is what a group of persons are called, I cry out.

Wow, the debate over distinct society, distinct peoples, distinction leads to extinctions, I say. Whatever amounts to a definition of people and what race, language, ethnicity, family structure, anything that has anything to do with identification seems logical. But... whatever happened to saying that we are from somewhere, we live somewhere and we live according to what our social and environmental needs are?

I always thought that the English were from England and the French were from France and the bilinguals were from Canada or the middle of the English Channel (or in transit in the Channel). It's too bad that bridges have to be built over non-existent boundaries and over self-troubled waters in order to get along. It's bad enough to build dams to cover deficits of a government whose own intent is to build an even bigger barrier called separation, distinction, sovereignty in a system that is not designed to accommodate its own constitution.

Fix the problem, is the secret password in the halls of government, but is the problem really with identification? Who we are? Where we come from? How we live? I think not. I think that the problem lies with putting the blame on others for problems created by those in charge, or think they are in charge.

Our problem is with our own society, and in answering these

questions, who are we, where are we going, what is our vision of our future. What land will our children stand on? Is the future so unimaginable that tearing up our traditions and lifestyles so important to growth of a nation? The Creator gave life to us through our parents and their parents and so on until the time of Creation. We were made to be a nation of people, to be a family of the world.

The Quebec government is busy trying to build barriers and boundaries when the rest of the world is trying to tear them down and participate in the world community as a world nation, free trade and all (except maybe for the North American Free Trade Agreement where corporate boundaries seem to be very vague).

Talking about dams, why don't we flood the St. Lawrence Seaway (à la Grand Canal) until all toxic substances are flushed out so that the poor people in the south can have their own drinking water?

Yes, Hydro-Quebec is trying to do the same to their workers in Radisson as the government did to the Inuit families of Inukjuak when they were relocated to Grize Fiord just to lay sovereign claim to the Arctic, put them where they don't belong or don't want to live. So, grow up, people of Quebec, live in the international world, where we all belong.

Sidney E. Snowboy Orr
Nemaska



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My memories of you;
Time to check the fish net
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Time to cut some wood
Then bring the wood inside

I remember;
When you used to sit on your chair
with a cup of tea in your hand
with a tooth pick in your mouth
with a shack over your head

There were times when you got angry
There were times when you got anxious
There were times when you were tired

But I was there to help you.

Forgotten not;
You were the hunter
you were the legend
you were my role model
You were my Grandfather
You were my true friend
Those were the times I will always
cherish with all my heart.

*Dedicated to my dad David Bosum Sr.
You've shown me the love a father has
you made me realize how important you are to me.
By Harry Bosum (Ouje-bougoumou)*



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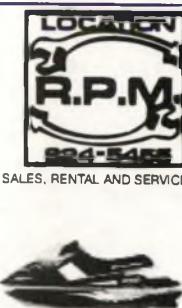
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birthday to you both and many more to come. Hey Sarah, Doom, Doom, from your niece Nancy B. Nemaska.

I would like to extend heartfelt birthday wishes to my brother William Coonishish on November 2 and to my sister Sarah on November 10. Happy birthday to you both and many more to come. Love always, your sister, Raven C. Mist.

Happy birthday to a very special little cousin to Minnie Angel on October 22 and to my second cousin Andy Wapachee on October 22. I love you both so much and don't eat too much cake. Happy birthday and many more to come. Love always Nancy B. Nemaska.

Happy birthday to my niece Minnie Angel on October 22. Happy 22nd birthday. Don't eat too much cake cause your teeth are still growing. I love you so much. Love always, your aunt, Raven C. Mist.

To a person in Waskaganish whose birthday is on October 27. I just wanted to wish you a happy birthday and many more to come. Remember the time when I held you close to me and told you that I

wanted to be with you always. You didn't say much after that. Whatever happened to what we had. I wish I could be with you on your birthday. But I hope you know that I'm thinking about you so often that I want to pick up the phone and call you like old times. Enjoy your day.

Happy birthday to my best friend Maggie Icebound. I wish you have a special day on your birthday on November 15. How old are you going to be? From Angie Otter XXX666

I'd like to wish someone a happy birthday. To Joshua Joseph Ottereyes who's birthday was on the 8th of October. It seems like only yesterday you were a helpless little baby boy but now I've seen you grow into a handsome and gorgeous little young man and that you are trying to do things for yourself now, well most of the things. I'm glad to have you as my nephew and proud to say that you are. I hope you know that I love you and even though sometimes we don't get along just remember that there's always a place for you in my heart and you'll never outgrow my heart. Once again I'd like to wish you a very special happy birthday

THE 4TH ANNUAL NATION/CREE SCHOOL BOARD WRITING CONTEST

It's official, the race is on. All entries must be received by **December 5th, 1997**.

Topics include: Personal experiences, sports, social and political issues, business, fiction, Elders, Community member profiles, legends, Cree future, Cree culture and values, changes in the community, education, learning in the bush, Cree in the workplace and Cree as a language of instruction.

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my little nephew and may god bless you, keep you in his hands and also give you many more special birthdays. Love always, aunty Doris and especially your cousins Noelene and baby Emerald (Mist)

I wanna wish Peter Esau happy birthday who's in Montreal. Sorry you couldn't be home on your birthday. Hope you spent your money wisely. I love you and miss you. Love, Yvonne. Hope to see you soon.

We wanna wish a happy birthday to our dad who's birthday was on October 17. Hope you had a good time in Montreal. We miss you and love you so much. from your three angels, Alicia, Clarrissa and Diana.

Birthday wishes going out to Beatrice Whiskeychan in Waswanipi whose birthday is on November 23. Hope you have a wonderful birthday. Try not to party that much. take care of Taylor instead. Happy birthday. Love, your sister Yvonne and nieces, Alicia, Clarissa and Diana.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my friend Cherish Stephen on October 10, 1997 and many more years to come. From friend Kathleen Shecapio. Mistissini.

A special birthday wish going out to a special sister of mine on October 21. Happy 23rd birthday to Kerri-Lynn Stewart. Bet you thought I didn't know about it eh! well, I remembered. But I almost forgot your age. I hope you had a blast on your birthday, although I wish I could have spent it over here. I miss you and I love you!! Love from your sister Alexandra Visitor. P.S. I'll say it again, I love you and don't party too much!!!

Happy 2?th birthday to our number 1 dishwasher who will be celebrating his big day on October 14th, you're number one to us because you're never late for work and you never complain of how much dishes you scrub 'n' dry and a number of other things. Hope your day is as great as your personality. High 5's and smiles from your co-workers at Krisanne's Restaurant (Wemindji)

I would like to send birthday greetings to a very special person, my mom Evelyn Tookalook on October 20, 1997. I love you and miss you very much. With love, your daughter Cheryl (Chisasibi)

Wishing a happy 4th birthday to our son Delmer Atsynia on October 21, 1997. Happy birthday and many

more to come. We love you so much. Love always, your bro Tom-She, mom and dad (Wemindji)

Happy birthday to a special sister Virginia Sarah Moses on October 27, 1997. I thought thank you was good enough but I have never said I love you for all the things you've done for me. A hug and a kiss are all I've come to show and I thought they were not enough. I never said the things I should have said, guess I'm not good with words out loud. Anyway I want to wish you that best that life has to offer and I love you sister you are special. I'm glad that you are one of many. With love always, your sister Emma Moses of Waskaganish.

Happy 2nd birthday to my little brother Adrian Titus Hester on October 21, 1997. I'm so glad to watch you as you play, and listen to you as you talk. You're growing up so fast, pretty soon you'll be off to school. happy 3rd birthday and I love you very much. Big hugs and kisses. xoxoxoxoxoxo. From your sister Geraldine Hester. (Waskaganish)

It's birthday time again for our little boy Adrian Titus Hester on October 21, 1997. Happy 3rd birthday Adrian and we love you. Hugs and kisses. xoxoxoxoxoxo. From your parents Clifford and Mary Hester. (Waskaganish).

I want to wish a happy birthday to my adorable daughter Catherine Asquabaneskum on September 25. You have a nice personality and a delightful smile that brightens up a room. Whenever you are sad and having a hard time, I am here to share your feelings. Whenever you need my love I am here to share my heart with you. Whenever you need me I will always be there for you. I love you very much. P.S. I love your hugs and kisses before you go to school every morning. Love always, mom and also from your brother Alexander (Wemindji)

We want to wish a late happy birthday to our one and only brother Walter Asquabaneskum on September 6th. Although you rarely hear us saying this, "We love you" We wish you the best in life. Love always, your sisters Gracie, Charlotte, Rose, Agnes and Beatrice (Wemindji)

We want to wish a happy birthday to our one and only son Walter on September 6th and to our daughter Catherine on September 25 and Frank Ratt on September 5. We love you all. Philip and Mary (Wemindji)

Happy birthday to my grandchildren Davey, Danny, Lena

and Andrea and especially

Happy 22nd to my wife Margaret. All birthdays in October. I love you all very much, Grandpa Boysh.

My dad Andrew celebrated his birthday on August 20. I'm sending this belated birthday greeting. That's because I love him so much. Take good care when you're in bush. I love you so much dad. Sorry I'm late but I didn't forget your birthday. From your only daughter and only child you have and who loves you very much. Andrea Wapachee. P.S. Don't ever forget your song, I'm over 30 and still wearing Jeans.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my dear friend Cherish Stephen on October 10, 1997. She will be turning 12 years old. Happy birthday Cherish and many more wonderful years to come. From friendship Andrea Arlene Wapachee.

Birthday wishes going out to a wonderful caring person whom I love very much who is Willy Bosum on October 6, 1997. We may have our ups and downs sometimes but that doesn't mean I don't care about you. Happy 18th birthday. Don't party too much. From Amy Mianscum.

Birthday wishes to our son Charles on October 6. Happy birthday and many more. Take care of yourself and remember that we are here when you need us. We love you always, mom and dad. Happy birthday to Sarah whose birthday is on October 6 also. Take care! Love from Elsie and Samuel, Lisa and JJ.

Happy birthday to my mommy and daddy Charles and Sarah whose birthdays are both on October 6th. Please take good care of me because I cannot take care of myself yet. Love from Franklin Curtiso

Birthday wishes to Anthony House whose birthday is on October 5th. You have almost reached the age to go hunting. Remember that we will be there to support you on your hunting. Happy birthday and many many more. With love always, Samuel, Elsie, Charles, Lisa and JJ and the D family.

Happy birthday to a special niece Rhonda House on October 1st. We wish you all the best of everything and many more birthdays. Love always, Samuel, Elsie and family.

Happy wishes to Janet on October 7th. Happy birthday and many more. Love from your aunt Elsie.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Abel Shecapio on September 25. You're the father I admire and feel so proud of because deep within you I see someone with character, strong and protective who's also as kind as can be. The values you live by make you so special, inspiring those close to you, too. You're the father I admire and feel so proud of and lovingly thank all year through. Happy birthday dad, happiness always and I love you so much. From your daughter Marilyn Ruth Shecapio. xoxoxoxoxoxo

Happy birthday to my cute cuz Benjamin Wapachee on September 4, 1997. I hope you get everything you wish for. Love, Andrea Wapachee. Jamhah. P.S. Take it easy on girls.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my best grandmother Rosie Wapachee on October 10, 1997. I love you very much. From Granddaughter Andrea Wapachee. Mistissini.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Jane Wapachee on November 30, 1997. Happy birthday Jane. I love you so much. I will try my best to pass my grade and to do everything you told me to do and thank you for taking care of me every year and again I love you so much. From Andrea Wapachee.

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my auntie Harriette W. Coon on September 30, 197. Happy birthday Harriette. I love you so much. From Niece Andrea wapachee.

Belated birthday wish to my brother Glenn A. Katapatuk on August 13 and to Krystal Lorrianne Marie Blackned on the 16th of August. Also a belated birthday wish to my father Lawrence Katapatuk Sr. on September 13, 1997. And to my cousin Stella Moar in Nemaska also on the 13th of September. Happy birthday and many more to come! From Katapatuk in Waskaganish. Luv ya all!!!

Happy 1st birthday to the most handsome, charming young prince, our son Darius Robert Miyobino Moar, he will be celebrating his birthday on October 15th, 1997. It seems like only yesterday we brought you home all wrapped up in your little cozy warm blanket. But now you're already getting into mommy's kitchen cupboards and rearranging the pots and pans. We just love that cute smile of yours and keep dancing to the song Macarena. We love you with all our hearts and

CLASSIFIEDS

wishing you many more birthdays to come. Hugs and kisses, Love, mom and dad.

A special birthday wish going out to our little brother "bejanish" Darius Robert Miyobino Mar who will be celebrating his birthday on October 15th, 1997. All we really wanted to say was we love having a little brother around the house that we can tease. We just love to tickle you and hear you laugh, you have such a cute little smile. with love your big brother and sister, Ste(???) and Candi.

I would like to wish my little buddies a happy belated birthday to Todd Moar on June 3rd, Damian Moar on August 11 and to Jovan Moar on September 12. From your little cousin Darius Moar.

Wishing a happy birthday to Harry Blacksmith on October 4. Hope you enjoy your special day. We are so glad to have you as a special friend, father, grandfather. We will always respect and love you as who you are. Claude Blacksmith and Jesse Cooper.

Wishing a happy 18th birthday to our friends in Ouje-Bougoumou. Willy Bosum on October 6, 1997. Sherry Dixon on October 9, 1997 and Theresa Wapabee on October 11, 1997. Hope you have fun on your birthdays and by the way, now you can go into Super Club and Chateau Inn eh? Happy now? Anyways, don't party too much. From Ojay youth. P.S. When you order your medical cards be sure to put your picture on it, just in case the bouncers don't believe you guys, okay? JK

102-WEDDINGS

Congratulations to pierrette Pepabano and Normand CoonCome who got married on October 18, 1997. We wish you all the best and a wonderful life together and may the good lord be with yo always and take really good care of Babastiensh. From mom and and family in Chisasibi..

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 24th anniversary to my aunt Kathleen and John Benac on October 12, 1997 and many more years to come. God bless you. From your niece Andrea wapabee.

Wishing a very special couple on October 8th a special 14th wedding anniversary, Gordon and Minnie Wapabee and we just wanted to say hi!, hello! and we love and that we always think about you guys. I guess we miss you both too so take care of each other and may God bless

you both and the kiddies in every way. With love and prayers and lots of hugs from Johnny and Elizabeth Brien.

My parents, you're so important to me. Without you nothing would have mattered. You show me that you care by your concerned words. Without you life is not worth living for. Because each day I see you both, your faces say carry on and that keeps me going to face another day with you. And I know I can rely on you both and when I need a hand, You give me, faith, hope and strength for better tomorrows. You're so important to me. There aren't other people in the world who could ever take you place in my life! I love you both very much. Happy 28th belated anniversary to the two most important people in my life, my parents David and Anna Bosum on September 5, 1997. With all my love Naomi Bosum (Ouje-Bougoumou) xoxoxoxoxoxoxo

Happy 13th wedding anniversary to my parents Dorothy and Andrew Wapabee on September 7, 1997. I thank you for everything, the love and care you had. I love you both so much. I will try my best to pass my grade and to do everything you told me to do. Love always, Andrea Wapabee.)

Happy 18th anniversary to my parents Elizabeth and Johnny Blacksmith on October 19. Enjoy your special day. Love, Naomi.

Happy 8th anniversary to Steve and Darlene Cheechoo, Tommy and Rosie RabbitSkin. Their anniversaries are on October 20. May God continue to bless you both throughout your lives together. In friendship, Gordon and Mary Jane.

Wishing a happy 7th anniversary to two special people on October 12, my sister and her hubby. Deborah (googoosh) and Charlie (Jallie Dodo) Matoush. Hope you two had a wonderful time on your special day in Las Vegas (Not!!) in Montreal. remember your wedding vow to love and cherish each other through good and bad times always try to remember the pain today is the joy tomorrow and love will keep you both together. May the good lord keep you u in his hand and bless you both and you r beautiful children and umh!!! well, Anyways have a nice anniversary. Love and prayers, Doris, Noelene and baby Emerald (mist)

300-PERSONALS

To my friend in Whapmagoostui, Eva Gunn, I would like just to say hi and to tell you that I miss you a lot. Can't wait to see you. And to

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my friend in Chisasibi, Rachel, can't wait to see you soon. I'm coming in November. From SB.

Congratulations to my dad Abel otter for being nominated best artist (Man) in the Nation. Thanks to everyone and to Tim Whiskeychan. From Angie Lisa Otter. Waswanipi. Congrats Tim and Abel.

We would like to congratulate our chief Walter Hughboy fro his 19 years as chief of Wemindji (September 12, 1997). Walter, it really shows what you have done for our community and it's a job well done. God will bless, guide and watch over you in everything you do for our community and for the people. Congratulations again. Members of Wemindji.

We would like to say hello to Stanley Blueboy in Chisb. We love you. You're the cutest boy we've meet in the hotel of Confortel, Val d'Or tournament. Remember. From your two secret admirers in Mistissini

A big hello to these people; CG, JG, JH, GH, NN, RN, MR, GK, (Chis), DM, BV, IE, Mist, DS, MW, RJ, AK (Wask) MJW, MC, GW, JJ, RC (Nem.) PG, PE, (Eastmain) EG, KG, SI, AO, NI, STG, (Wasw.) P.P (Val d'Or. From somebody who had fun meeting you guys. Dig in and see if your initials are there. If they are, cool eh! Hope to see you faces once again. Especially to EG (was.) Fair well and take care each one of you.

Hi to our cousin Lena Pash in Chisasibi. So, how's it going for you so far girl? Hope you're having fun. Anyways, take good care of yourself and hope to see you soon! From your cousins, Patricia Hester, Melinda Georgekish and Jessica Diamond in Waskaganish.

I would like to say "why?" to a friend of mine in Nemaska "Kraft Dinner". So, how's life in the bush? (Nemaska) Jas kittin' No offense guys! (I meant people from Nemaska)

Anyways keep eating Kraft Dinner and don't party hardy with Bacardi. From your friend LB in Chinatown (O.J) Hey! no offense Ojewj. P.S. Nas-kama-dow-da-bays-kew-Jesus-Kryst-Amen? You know what goes in the missing blanks, it's what you always call me. But not anymore, you'll be surprised..

Smoke. thanks for the gift. i'll write soon.

I would like to say hello to my friends in Mistissini. Jessica Longchap and Nina Metabie. So, how are you girls doing? me, I'm doing great. I miss you both very much and I can't wait to see you two again. Thanks for such fun times with you girls when I was in Mistissini

(Perch River) Friend always, Alexandra visitor. P.S. Take care of yourselves!!!

To Kathy Neeposh and the rest of the people involved in the accident. I just wanted you all to know that I am not concerned of what happened to my car but the thing I'm more concerned about is that you are all alright. A car can be

replaced or fixed, but a life can never be. I forgive you all for what you have done. Everybody makes mistakes and learns from them. just thought you should all know that's it's OK and I forgive you all. From Clifford I. Neeposh.

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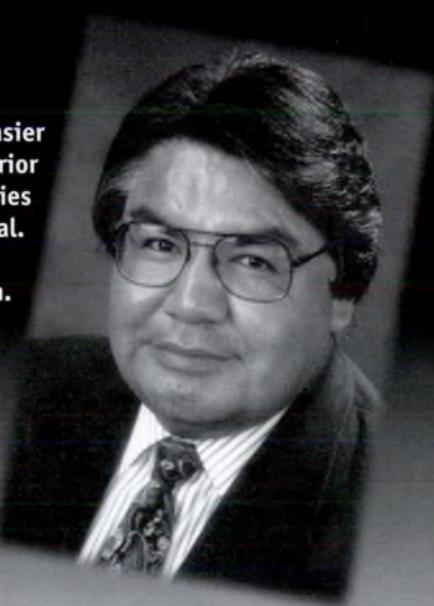
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